



# CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

*By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:*

## ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK

**WHEREAS**, Article XI of the Constitution of Virginia declares that it shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to conserve, develop and utilize its natural resources and to protect its atmosphere, lands and waters for the general welfare of the people; and

**WHEREAS**, environmental sustainability is aimed at meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the natural resource needs of future generations, and it is important to recognize that environmental sustainability and economic sustainability go hand-in-hand; and

**WHEREAS**, for the past decade, leading industries, businesses, public sector agencies, and other organizations in our Commonwealth have voluntarily taken steps to conserve natural resources for an environmentally sustainable future, and it is important to recognize the results of Virginia's environmental sustainability improvement efforts, including such results as major reductions in air pollution emissions, wastewater discharges, hazardous and solid waste generation, and energy and water consumption; increases in solid waste recycling, water reuse and conservation and energy efficiency conservation; significant benefits to the environment above and beyond environmental regulatory requirements; and reduced costs, including direct savings to taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, environmental improvements in Virginia are a result of the leadership, innovation and dedication of participating organizations, have been effective because they were tailored to the individual and unique operations of participating industries and facilities, and could not have been achieved in a sustainable manner through government regulatory programs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is fitting for recognize the employees and managers who have dedicated themselves to finding cost effective environmental improvements as well as the leadership and commitment of our Commonwealth's industries, businesses and other organizations in seeking sustainable solutions to improve profitability, keep and grow jobs, and ensure long term protection of Virginia's natural resources;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize April 23-29, 2012 as **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WEEK** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of our citizens.



  
Governor

  
Secretary of the Commonwealth